

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants note that a Notice of Allowance was issued in this case on November 5, 2002, in spite of a proper request for a three-month suspension of action from August 21, 2002 to November 21, 2002. Applicants submitted a Request for Withdrawal of Notice of Allowance ("Request") on February 5, 2003, and based on a conversation with the Examiner, Applicants understand that the Notice of Allowance was to be withdrawn.

Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. Claims 27-34 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Claims 7, 11, 17, and 25 have been amended as to matters of form. Claims 1, 9, 13, and 19, which are the independent claims, have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, i.e., to recite that the maximum temperature at the surface of the protection film, which is in contact with the ink, is not higher than 560°C. No claim recitation has been narrowed by these changes, which in any event are intended to clarify the claim language. Applicants believe that independent Claims 1, 9, 13, and 19, and their dependent claims, are still allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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